

NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 821CA

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Introduced by Heidemann, 1

Read first time January 30, 2006

Committee: Business and Labor

1 THE MEMBERS OF THE NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA,
2 SECOND SESSION, RESOLVE THAT:

3 Section 1. At the general election in November 2006 the
4 following proposed amendment to the Constitution of Nebraska shall
5 be submitted to the electors of the State of Nebraska for approval
6 or rejection:

7 To amend Article I, section 2-5:

8 I-2 There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary
9 servitude in this state, otherwise than for punishment of crime,
10 whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.

11 I-3 No person shall be deprived of life, liberty,
12 or property, without due process of law, nor be denied equal
13 protection of the laws.

14 I-4 All persons have a natural and infeasible right
15 to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their
16 own consciences. No person shall be compelled to attend, erect

1 or support any place of worship against his consent, and no
2 preference shall be given by law to any religious society, nor
3 shall any interference with the rights of conscience be permitted.
4 No religious test shall be required as a qualification for office,
5 nor shall any person be incompetent to be a witness on account
6 of his religious beliefs; but nothing herein shall be construed
7 to dispense with oaths and affirmations. Religion, morality, and
8 knowledge, however, being essential to good government, it shall
9 be the duty of the Legislature to pass suitable laws to protect
10 every religious denomination in the peaceable enjoyment of its own
11 mode of public worship, and to encourage schools and the means of
12 instruction.

13 I-5 Every person may freely speak, write and publish on
14 all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty; and
15 in all trials for libel, both civil and criminal, the truth when
16 published with good motives, and for justifiable ends, shall be a
17 sufficient defense.

18 Sec. 2. The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the
19 electors in the manner prescribed by the Constitution of Nebraska,
20 Article XVI, section 1, with the following ballot language:

21 A constitutional amendment shall be neither slavery nor
22 involuntary servitude in this state, otherwise than for
23 punishment of crime, whereof the party shall have been
24 duly convicted.

25 For

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Against.